MARVEL

10

LGY#736

THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC MAGAZINE!

Fantastic Four

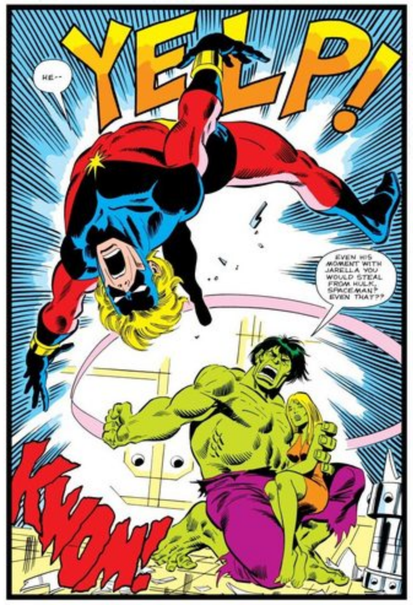
NORTH
RAMOS
OLAZABA
DELGADO

THE INVINCIBLE WOMAN

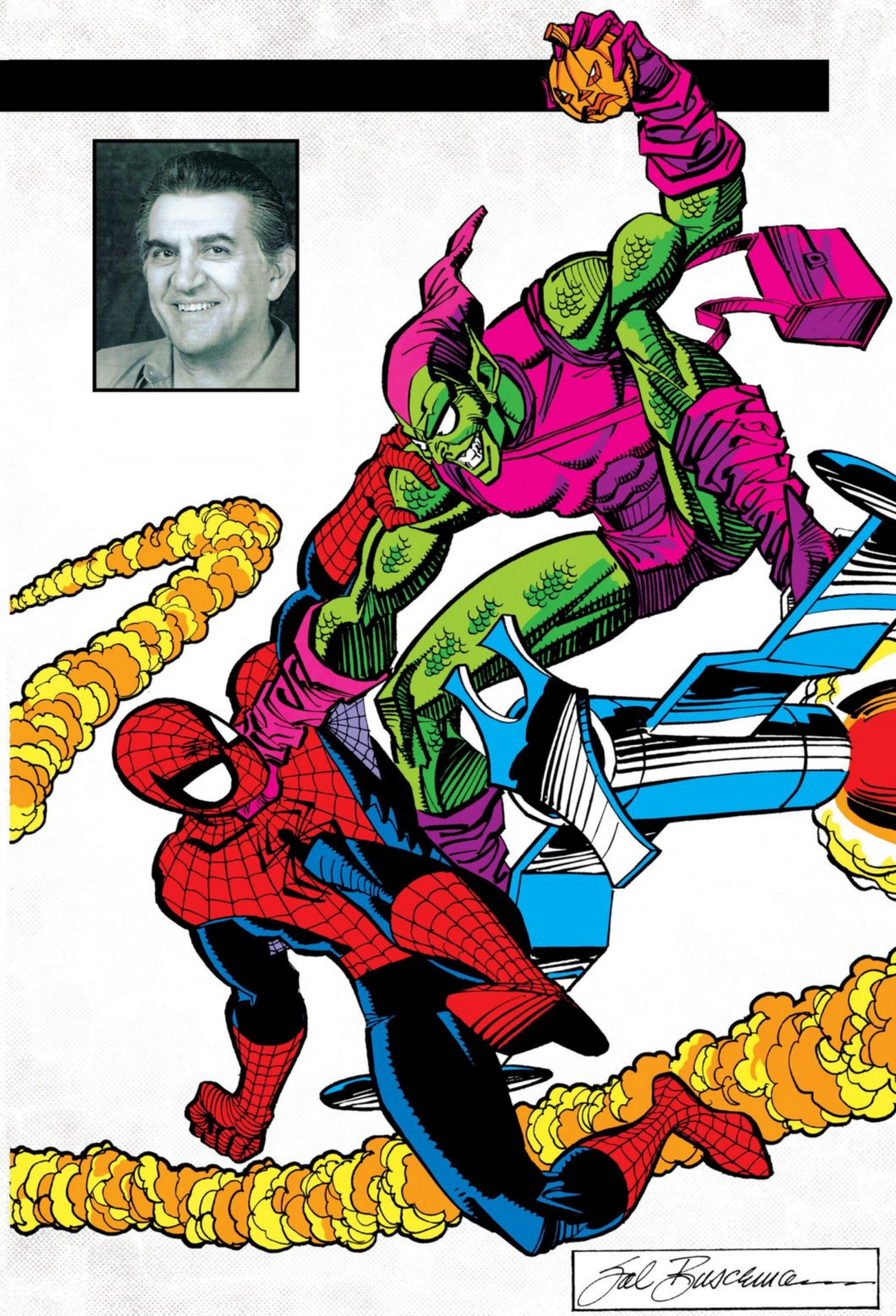
PART FIVE

RATED T

SAL BUSCEMA
1936-2026



Marvel pauses to remember Sal Buscema, a foundational Marvel artist since 1969. Buscema was a prolific penciler and inker, working on nearly every Marvel character. His clear, dynamic storytelling was a feature of long, historic runs on *Spectacular Spider-Man*, *Incredible Hulk* and *Rom*. Buscema was famed for drawing bombastic roundhouse punches that sent characters sprawling across the page, but he could also be capable of great subtlety and emotion in his character acting. "Our Pal Sal" will be missed by generations of Marvel fans.



JOHNNY STORM
HUMAN TORCH

BEN GRIMM
THE THING

SUSAN RICHARDS
INVISIBLE WOMAN

REED RICHARDS
MISTER FANTASTIC

Fantastic Four

A brilliant scientist--his best friend--the woman he loves--and her hotheaded younger brother! Together, they braved the unknown terrors of outer space and were transformed by cosmic rays into something more than merely human! Now they are the **Fantastic Four**...and the world will never be the same again!

The **Invincible Woman** is an alternate version of Sue--one who accidentally wiped out her own planet and subsequently lobotomized herself to avoid feeling the crushing remorse. She was trying to kill **Galactus** in the far reaches of space, until **Reed**, **Sue**, **Johnny** and **Ben** intervened. They fought, but the Invincible Woman proved so powerful that the super-family were forced to retreat. They contacted their children back on Earth to warn them, only to learn that New York was already under an alien attack!

WRITER
RYAN NORTH

PENCILER
HUMBERTO RAMOS

INKER
VICTOR OLAZABA

COLORIST
EDGAR DELGADO

LETTERER
VC's JOE CARAMAGNA

COVER ARTISTS
HUMBERTO RAMOS &
EDGAR DELGADO

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
DAVID NAKAYAMA
(COLOR BLOCK WHITE);
JONAS SCHARF & ALEX GUIMARÃES
(AGENTS OF S.H.I.E.L.D.);
MICHELE BANDINI & ERICK ARCINIEGA
(ULTIMATE FAREWELL);
STEVE RUDE

DESIGNER
CARLOS LAO

ASSISTANT EDITOR
LINDSEY COHICK

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
ANNALISE BISSA

EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT

EDITOR IN CHIEF
C.B. CEBULSKI

FANTASTIC FOUR CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

Earth is under attack--and we're on the other side of the *universe.*

But we and Maria Hill have a *plan...*

Sorcerer Supreme. I have him.

Thank you, Maria.

...and we don't have any other *options.*

Hello, *Bullseye*--or one of his *clones.* Do you actually know which you are?

Don't answer that. I'm going to create a chaos magic *summoning spell* to bring the Fantastic Four here.

SLKT

Nor should they be.

But know this: With all the powers of the Sorcerer Supreme, it may be possible--just--for me to *cast* a spell those billions of light-years away...

Yeah, *have fun* with that. Not my *circus,* Scarlet Witch, and not my *monkeys.*

VRTTT

VRTTT

VRTTT

VRTTT

VRTTT

...but it isn't possible for me to *aim* it.

And I'm led to understand that you, *Lester,* are the best marksman on the *planet.*

We know where it has to go, and have all the data we need--but we have to hit a ***single*** spaceship, on the other side of the ***universe,*** traveling at speeds faster than light.

If you ask me, it's an impossible shot. Can't be done.

Unless, of course, you ***prove me wrong.***

Pass. Even if I did it, nobody would ever ***know*** about it.

You would know. You'd have hit the most difficult ***target*** in the ***universe.***

And if you don't try, you'll never know if you ***could.***

Fine. Cast whatever spells you need, just let me aim.

Charge me up, Witch...

You may be the Sorcerer Supreme, lady...

SHRMMRMMMRMMMM

...but ***I'm*** magic.

Pew pew.

ZZRAKAKAKAAAK!

ZZRAKAKAKAAAK!

He missed.

I ***don't*** miss. ***Her*** magic must've sucked.

Patience: We're trying to affect the other side of the ***universe.*** These spells...

KRAAKOOOOM!

...they just need some *time.*

Part *one* of the plan worked, at least: Reed, Johnny, Ben, and I are *home.*

After what she's done to us, our ship is barely holding together, but we're here--and we're *alive.*

For the moment.

For *death* rides with us--in the form of my *evil doppelganger* from *another world.*

THE FANTASTIC FOUR IN:
"EARTH VERSUS THE INVINCIBLE WOMAN"

Incredible. You've brought me to *exactly* the place I want to be: *another Earth.*

This will be *fun.*

KRAKOOM

The battle is going *worse* than we anticipated.

Franklin! *Kids!*

Over here!

Hey. Missed ya.

Mom! Dad! We're locked in *lethal combat* with *alien invaders!*

And Val's *Doombots* are a real help!

It was my understanding, Valeria, that these Doombots you'd acquired were *destroyed.**

Technically, I said I'd *disposed* of them, Dad, and I had! And now they're *un*disposed!

I was saving them--my *army*--for a *special occasion.*

You can see it happen in* ***The Will of Doom* *#1. --Tom*

And before you get mad, just *wait* till you see how well they attack!

Valbots...

...take that lady *OUT!*

SWOOSH!

CHHHT

CHHHT

CHHHT

CHHHT

CHHHT

WHD!

WHD!

WHD!

CHHHT

That's fun.

...Okay, never mind.

<Susan Storm has been found--and there are two of them!>

<Earth is defended! Retreat!>

<Retreat!>

SVRRRMMMM

Yeah, you'd better run!

This is *good*, right?

It is, Johnny. The initial part of the plan was to save Earth from alien invasion by bringing the Invincible Woman here.

Like fixing a mouse problem in the nursery by bringing in a *wild tiger*.

Hey, you do your part and we'll do ours. Good to see you, Sue.

Wolverine, Deadpool--you're up. We're moving to Phase Two.

Already on it.

Hey, remind me again why I volunteered for this?

Ya wanted ta be a *hero*, bub.

Now it's time ta--

Urk.

A bubble in his brain for *this* one.

And for you, loudmouth, I can peel your *skin* off in *strips*...

ARGH!

There's *got* to be easier ways to be a hero!!

It'll--

:Koff:

It'll take more than *that* t' kill me, lady.

Not me! This is *plenty.* Great job, lady, you can stop trying to kill me! Got it in one!

Fascinating. You both *heal.* Tell me--how much?

How far can I take you before you can't come *back?*

GRARRRGH!!

SNAP!

SNAP!

SNAP!

ARRRGH!

SNAP!

SNAP!

Metal. Your bones are *metal.*

Oh, this *will* be fun. You're going to--

CLANGGGGGG

Oh, would ya look at that. Clobberin' time *already?*

You're welcommmmmeeeeee!

I have a ***force-field*** around my body, protecting me from impacts.

You couldn't win a billion light-years from here, and you can't win here. You ***have*** to see how this is ***hopeless*** for you.

There are so many ways to kill you, Benjamin.

Let's start with the easy ones and work our way up, *huh?*

I'd ***hate*** to say goodbye so quickly.

This one's a *classic.*

Yeesh!

No, that's not possible. The odds of ***every one*** missing you--

Astronomical, right?

It's too bad you killed everyone on *your* world before meeting me, 'cuz we could've made one *hell* of a team.

I'm Felicia, honey. Sorry 'bout your luck.

Black Cat's ***bad-luck*** *powers are amplified by this machine that me and my teen sidekick here made.*

No, Iron Man's ***my*** adult sidekick. And it's fascinating how ***your*** bad luck is everyone else's ***good***.

ZZZZZZZRRRTTT!

Rarrrgh!

You attack me with ***technology?*** I've ***mastered*** the ***entire*** electro-magnetic spectrum!

I--

That may be true, but you are still human. And that gives you the ***focus*** of a human.

SWOOOM!

We are ***limited,*** Susan. Our attention is directional and ***imperfect.***

Goodbye, Reed. A bubble in your brain...

...and I ***stretch around it,*** Susan.

And there's more of us than there are of ***you,*** "Invincible Woman."

GRAH!

You-- you *burned* me.

Yeah. You're here to *kill everyone,* Sis. I don't *get* to play around.

Enough.

All you've accomplished is proving to me that the simplest ways *are* the best. You're *dead,* Johnny.

This whole world is about to be cooked...

...from the inside out.

Guys? I think she's talking about microwaves! She's building up a charge!

...Guys?

Guys?!

The Invincible Woman *bends* microwaves to race around her at the speed of light, doubling and *redoubling* their strength.

She's using her powers to such a degree that parts of her body are becoming *involuntarily invisible.*

She builds a charge-- large enough to end *all life* on Earth twice over.

And then,

she smiles,

and *she* *lets it go.*

ZZZ

Reed almost gave it all away--his desire to *explain* the world is something I love most about him, but it *can* backfire.

Like he told her: *focus.* The Invincible Woman is only human.

A big battle in an evacuated New York, all of us risking our lives, buying time on the bet she'd want to *toy* with us before killing us...

...just to keep her from noticing the materials the *Future Foundation* was moving into place around her.

The sphere--a full-spectrum *electromagnetic reflector,* like the inside of a microwave oven--designed to send EM waves back to her.

ZZZRRRRAK!

I kept them invisible--and silent--for the time it took to get them into place.

It was *absolutely* a risk--but it was the only chance we had. We had to *take* it.

RRRARRRGGGGHHHHH!

When she attacked with enough energy--enough *malice*--to kill a planet...

...we sent it all *back* to her at the speed of light.

ARRGGGH!

FWOOM

Is she...?

Her force-fields protected her from ***most*** of the energy, and what did make it through seems to have been defensively ***shifted*** through the *EM* spectrum. She's alive...

...but I'm not picking up any neurological activity at all.

Thank God. We were ***not*** going to get another shot at that.

What now? Is this, like, the kind of coma you wake up from?

Possibly. She'll be cared for by S.H.I.E.L.D. and us--or, rather, by the ***Future Foundation.***

And if we could find a way to ***restore*** the parts of herself she destroyed...

...then maybe one day, she can be ***cured.***

So we're *done* here.

Not quite. Maria, I need the *Sorcerer Supreme* again.

We have to go *back.* We can *save* Galactus.

You're not serious.

Galactus *kills planets*--just like your *duplicate,* Sue.

He's a universal constant--*our* universal constant. if he dies, things fall apart.

The bottom line, Ms. Hill, is that life in the universe is better off *with* him than without him.

We trusted you, Maria...

...and if this Foundation is going to work, I'm going to need to trust you too. I get it.

I'll get Wanda.

The Scarlet Witch sends us back. Apparently, *re*-opening an already established magical portal is significantly easier.

A new part of the universe is now open to *exploration.*

And *Galactus*, the Devourer of Worlds, is just where we left him.

He's *dying.*

Look. It's eating him from the inside out.

Great Scott. The Invincible Woman compressed matter ***inside his body*** so densely together that it created a ***singularity!***

What do we do now? None of you are, like, ***surgery*** doctors.

'Specially not surgery docs who specialize in th' ***cosmic embodiment 'a hunger.***

We may not have to be: Galactus has the ***Power Cosmic.*** If we get that black hole out--he should ***heal.***

Give me the brightest fire you've got, Johnny--I'm going to align it into a laser and try ***cutting*** him open.

FWOOOOSH!

On it, Sis.

FLAME ON!

FWOOOOSH!

I focus, bending all of Johnny's light into the strongest laser I can create...

...and it's not *enough.*

SPPHT

I need more light! ***Brighter,*** Johnny!

Even with Johnny burning so bright that I have to turn our ***retinas*** partially invisible to protect our sight...

...Galactus' body is simply too ***powerful.***

And then, Galactus *moves.*

And my world...

...expands.

Johnny, fly into the sky and go ***nova.*** Everyone else, stand back.

Darling, are you...?

I ***am,*** honey. And I don't know how long I can ***hold*** it. Protect him, Ben--and yourself.

I bend the ***entire output*** of both Johnny and the ***sun*** into a colossal laser.

As I do, the stars reveal themselves.

There's no more ambient light in the atmosphere to ***hide*** them.

And still--

--still--

SPPH

*--it's not **enough.***

I need more power, more light.

I need--

--I need the light of a *universe.*

It joins the light I've already captured. Photons align, move close...

KRAKKKKOOOOOOOM!

...and an archaeologist from Long Island brings *Galactus* back from the brink.

LATER.

Sue? Ya in there?

I am. Come in, Ben.

Maria called--yer double hasn't woken up, but she's safe with 'em.

Good.

Hell of a thing ya *did* back there. With Galactus, I mean.

...Yeah.

Ben...I think the Invincible Woman and I have more in common than I'd like to admit.

Nah. I figgered yer thoughts might be runnin' along those lines, an' I hate ta tell ya, boss--

--ya used yer powers ta ***save*** people. ***She*** never made that choice.

She never got the ***chance*** to make that choice.

Mebbe.

Look, ya saw ***darkness*** in ya, and that'll mess ***anyone*** up. But there's darkness in ***all*** 'a us--more 'n we'd like ta ***admit.***

All that matters is that ya don't let it ***define*** ya.

Ya ask me, that's th' beauty 'a life: Nobody's perfect, an' we all get ta ***choose*** who we wanna be, each n' every day.

An' each an' every day, ya choose ta be ***better*** than who ya were ***yesterday***--an' it's ***appreciated,*** that's all. From all 'a us.

Yer a good kid, Susie-Q.

'Sides, yer **not** her, Suze. It's not like ya got **electromagnetic** powers too, ya know? Ya just scaled yer **existin'** light powers with Big G, thanks t' the **Power Cosmic**.

Lissen-- I'm about ta go barbecue up some **primo** chickie thighs. See ya in th' backyard fer dinner?

Try and stop me.

KLIK

TNK

Hm.

END!

Fantastic Four Fan Page

To the FF Team,

Once again, I thank you guys for bringing us another wonderful issue of the world's greatest comic magazine. You guys continuously bring me one of the highlights of my month whenever a new one is released. This comic replicates the nature of Lee and Kirby's run while also maintaining its own identity. It's fresh, it's wonderful and it's fantastic! What goes into the planning of the series? One of my favorite theories is that there's a list of episode (issue) ideas that gets written down and eventually transformed into a comic, which would explain the primarily episodic nature. The real kicker is when something longtime FF readers would know is brought back into the spotlight for a few panels (you should've seen the look on my face when Roberta came back in #6). Keep up the fantastic work! I always look forward to the next one.

P.S. Whenever I bring in comics for my students to read, your FF run is always the one taken first.

Jeffery Martin
Indianapolis, Indiana

I hate to break the illusion of complexity for you, Jeffrey, but the truth of the matter is simply that Ryan comes up with the stories mostly all on his own, with only an occasional suggestion from us. And while he's got no dearth of ideas, I'm not sure that the process is quite as organized as you suggest. But, hey, glad to hear about your students—bright kids!

Hi there, FF Team!

After reading FF #6, I just wanted to say that I ADORE the way Reed's powers have been used these past few years. As someone who thinks elasticity is one of the best powers, I do get tired of the usual stuff of long arms, legs and torso, so it's genuinely wonderful to see actual, unique applications of elasticity being used. I hope these new applications keep showing up for years to come!

Jewel Bloom

Thanks, Jewel! It's one of those aspects of what we've been doing that has proven slightly divisive with certain longtime fans. But in general, I'm all for pushing things forward in new and innovative directions, so there really isn't any reason why Reed shouldn't extend the range of his abilities.

Greetings,

On the penultimate page of FF #6, Reed uses a word we all know well, but HE uses it correctly.

"...it's fantastic"

As an avid FF reader for decades, I've always been annoyed by the joke about Reed Richards having the chutzpah to name himself "Mister Fantastic."

The word doesn't have the same meaning now that it did in 1961. Back then, "Fantastic" didn't mean "great" or "terrific," it meant "strange," "novel," "unexplainable."

Reed used the word as it once meant, and I think that's...awesome... fabulous...wonderful...hmm...

Eric Sandberg
Diamond Bar, CA

Outstanding lesson concerning the way the meaning of words can change over time, Eric!

How can I express how much I'm loving this run of FANTASTIC FOUR? My undergrad was in astrophysics, and the latest issue deals with the Cosmic Microwave Background. My father, sister and brother-in-law are mathematicians, and I grew up talking about higher-dimensional geometry as we saw at the forefront of issue #5 of 2023's run. I later did my PhD in phytoplankton ecology (I know—big change from astro), so, of course, I loved the follow-up issue #6. This entire run has not only been one that I can hand over to my friends who've never read comics and get them excited for the Fantastic Four, but one that has so much personal meaning to me too. I'm adoring it. I've even come around on Johnny's moustache—from hating it to loving to hate it. My sincere thanks to the entire team who've made these last years' issues so great.

Trevor Sloughter,
London, UK

That's what we've been saying all along, Trevor: Johnny's mustache grows on you! And on him!

Dear Ryan, Humberto and FF Team,

I love what you guys have done with FANTASTIC FOUR. You really highlight the characters' skills and humanness. I love what you have done with Sue, not just the use of her powers but also her character development. You have done a great job in just six issues with all of the characters as I feel they jump off the page, especially Sue. I've always been a big Reed fan, but now Sue matches him in a meaningful way. I would love to see you dig into Ben's psyche more, being torn between being human versus the Thing. I'm a therapist, and I've always enjoyed in the past when that aspect of Ben is explored. Finally, I would love to see you do a Diablo story about his origin. He's one of my favorites, and I would love to see him. Keep up the great work. I will stay tuned.

Richard Melendez,
NCC, CCTP, LMHC,
CASAC Master Counselor
Delmar, NY

Thanks, Richard! I think that Ben generally comes across as pretty comfortable in his own skin at this point, but that's certainly an element we can give some consideration to. As for Diablo, while it may be a while before we see him in these pages, his Earth-828 counterpart will be putting in an appearance in an upcoming FANTASTIC 4 FIRST FOES special in just a couple of months!

Tom B
3/9/26

As always, if you've got an opinion to share, you can email it to us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM. Be sure to mark your letters as "Okay to Print!" if you'd like to see them featured here on the Fan Page!

Next

© 2026 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.